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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/800,235	03/12/2004	Sze-Moey Voon	200314056-1	8851
22879	7590	12/15/2004	EXAMINER	
HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400			VU, PHUONG T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2841	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/800,235

Applicant(s)

VOON ET AL.

Examiner

Phuong T. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 2 is objected to. There is lack of antecedent basis for the "conduit" of claim 2. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4, 6, 8-9, 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takami et al. (US 6,667,436 B2). Regarding claim 1, the reference discloses a housing 10 for an electronic system, the housing comprising an opening (open area provided in 10) operable to hold an attachment and a passage (conduit with smallest opening) having a first opening (smallest opening on a wall with conduit through which 5c extends) adjacent to the opening, having a second opening (opening on opposing wall through which 5c extends), and operable to hold a communication medium (cable 5c) that extends between the first and second openings.

Regarding claim 2, the conduit includes an auxiliary opening (through which 3c, 4c extend) adjacent to the second opening.

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Regarding claim 3, the housing includes a back 1a comprising the opening and a top 1d covering the passage.

Regarding claim 4, the passage includes an auxiliary opening adjacent the second opening.

Regarding claim 6, the passage is substantially straight.

Regarding claim 8, the first opening has an area, the second opening has an area, and the area of the first opening does not equal the area of the second opening.

Regarding claim 9, the first opening has an area, the second opening has an area, and the area of the first opening is smaller than the area of the second opening.

Regarding claim 13, the reference discloses an electronic system comprising an attachment 2 and a housing 10 defining an opening in which the attachment is mounted and defining a passage having a first opening (smallest opening) adjacent to the attachment, having a second opening (through which 5c extends), and operable to hold a communication medium 5c coupled between the attachment and a device external to the housing.

Regarding claim 14, the communication medium comprises a cable.

Regarding claim 15, the reference discloses a computer system comprising an attachment 2 and a housing 10 defining an opening in which the attachment is mounted and defining a passage having a first opening (smallest opening) adjacent to the attachment having a second opening (through which 5c extends) and operable to hold a communication medium coupled 5c between the attachment and a device external to the housing.

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Regarding method claims 16-18, one would necessarily perform the recited method steps in setting up the above-mentioned computer system.

4. The following is a separate and alternative rejection. Claims 1, 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takami et al. (US 6,667,436 B2).

Regarding claim 1, the reference discloses a housing 10 for an electronic system, the housing comprising an opening (receiving cables 4c, 3c) operable to hold an attachment 5c and a passage (area inside 10) having a first opening (smallest opening with conduit through which 5c extends) adjacent to the opening, having a second opening (opening through which 5c extends), and operable to hold a communication medium (cable 5c) that extends between the first and second openings.

Regarding claim 7, the passage is substantially rectangular.

5. Claims 1, 6, 10-18, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Beavers (US 5,896,268). Regarding claim 1, the reference discloses a housing 10 for an electronic system, the housing comprising an opening (bottom-most opening through which 27 extends) operable to hold an attachment and a passage (open area provided in 12) having a first opening (middle opening through which 27 extends) adjacent to the opening, having a second opening (top opening through which 27 extends), and operable to hold a communication medium (cable 27) that extends between the first and second openings.

Regarding claim 6, the passage is substantially straight.

Regarding claim 10, the passage tapers.

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Regarding claim 11, the housing further comprises a storage compartment 14 and the second opening opens to the storage compartment.

Regarding claim 12, the housing further comprises a storage compartment 14 and includes a top 16 covering the passage and the passage includes an auxiliary opening (open area of 14) through the top and the second opening opens to the storage compartment.

Regarding claims 13-15, please refer to the rejection above.

Regarding method claims 16-18, one would necessarily perform the recited method steps in setting up the above-mentioned computer system.

Regarding claim 20, the reference shows storing the external device in a storage compartment 14.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. The following is based on the first Takami rejection. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takami et al. (US 6,667,436B2). The reference does not mention where the external device connected by the cables is positioned. It would have been obvious to those skilled in the art that the external device may be positioned anywhere, including on top of a storage compartment. As

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long as the cables can connect device, the position of the external device would not affect operation the system.

8. The following is base on the first Takami rejection. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takami et al. (US 6,667,436B2) in view of Rohde et al. Takami discloses that the passage includes an auxiliary opening adjacent (and opposed to) the second opening and the housing includes a top covering the passage but does not teach a cap operable to close the opening. However, Rohde teaches that it is known to provide caps 35 for closing openings to provide electromagnetic shielding. The Rohde reference is relied upon solely for this teaching. It would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a cap as taught by Rohde in the configuration of Takami to provide electromagnetic shielding.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong T. Vu whose telephone number is (571) 272-2111. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. & Tues., 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kammie Cuneo can be reached on (571) 272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phuong T. Vu', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Phuong T. Vu
Patent Examiner
Group 2841